

State Injury Indicators



Alcohol-Related Crash Deaths

Category:	Motor Vehicle Indicators
Demographic Group:	All residents
Numerator:	Alcohol-related death of a person involved in crash of a motor vehicle traveling on a public roadway and occurring within 30 days of the crash. Deaths are considered alcohol-related if either a driver or non-occupant (e.g., pedestrian or bicyclist) had a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) great than or equal to 0.01 g/dL.
Denominator:	Midyear population for the calendar year under surveillance.
Measures of Frequency:	Annual number of deaths. Annual mortality rate—crude.
Period for Case Definition:	Calendar year.
Background:	During 2005, 16,885 people in the U.S. died in alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes, representing 39% of all traffic-related deaths.* Of the 1,946 traffic fatalities among children ages 0 to 14 years, 21% involved alcohol.**
Limitations of Indicator:	Injuries severe enough to result in death represent only a small proportion of the overall burden of injury. An evaluation of only these injuries may not present an accurate picture of the causes of less-severe injuries.
Data Resources:	Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) coordinated by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) (numerator) and population estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau or suitable alternative (denominator).
Limitations of Data Resources:	FARS does not include non-traffic crashes such as lose occurring on driveways and other private property. Additionally, it also does not include deaths that occur more than 30 days after the motor vehicle crash. Because blood alcohol levels are not available on all fatalities, the estimates are based on a discriminant analysis of information from all cases where BAC data are available.
Healthy People 2010 Objectives:	15-15: Reduce deaths caused by motor vehicle crashes 15-16: Reduce pedestrian deaths on public roads 26-1: Reduce deaths and injuries caused by alcohol- and drug-related motor vehicle crashes
CDC's Health Protection Goals:	Healthy People in Every Stage of Life: Crosscutting Healthy People in Healthy Places: Healthy Communities Healthy People in Healthy Places: Healthy Travel and Recreation

*Dept of Transportation (US), National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Traffic safety facts 2005: alcohol. Washington (DC): NHTSA; 2006 [cited 2006 Oct 3]. Available from URL: <http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/pdf/nrd-30/NCSA/TSF2005/AlcoholTSF05.pdf>. **Dept of Transportation (US), National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Traffic safety facts 2005: children. Washington (DC): NHTSA; 2006b [cited 2006 Oct 3]. Available from URL: <http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/pdf/nrd-30/NCSA/TSF2005/ChildrenTSF05.pdf>.
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